



AP English Language and Composition Reading List

Module 1: Early Edition

- Maria Stewart’s “Why Sit Ye Here and Die?”
- Jane Goodall’s “Jane Discusses the Horrors of Trophy Hunting”
- Benjamin Banneker’s letter to Jefferson and Washington
- Arthur Miller’s *The Crucible*

Module 2: Revolutionary Edition

- Justin Knapp’s “The Grant Shapps Affair Is a Testament to Wikipedia’s Integrity and Transparency”
- Patrick Henry’s “Liberty or Death” speech
- Thomas Jefferson’s *Declaration of Independence*
- Joseph Lee’s *Play in Education* excerpt
- John Downe’s letter to his wife
- Jonathan Edwards’s “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God” excerpt
- Rachel Carson’s *Silent Spring* excerpt

Module 3: Romantic Edition

- Ralph Waldo Emerson’s “Self-Reliance”
- Charles Dickens’s *Great Expectations* excerpt of Chapter 1
- Robert Louis Stevenson’s “Apology for Idlers”
- Lewis Thomas’s *The Medusa and the Snail* excerpt

Module 4: Civil War Edition

- Stephen Crane’s *The Red Badge of Courage* excerpt
- John James Audubon’s *Ornithological Biographies* excerpt
- Annie Dillard’s *The Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* excerpt
- Abraham Lincoln’s *Gettysburg Address*
- Frederick Douglass’s *Life and Times of Frederick Douglass* excerpt
- “Swing Low, Sweet Chariot”
- “Go Down, Moses”
- Florence Kelley’s speech to the National American Woman Suffrage Association
- Choice of Ray Bradbury’s *Zen in the Art of Writing* or William Zinsser’s *On Writing Well*

Module 5: Realism Edition

- Various political cartoons
- Jonathan Swift’s “A Modest Proposal”
- Mark Twain’s “Advice to Youth”
- Catherine Beecher’s “Peculiar Responsibilities of American Women”

- George Washington Burnap's *The Sphere and Duties of Woman* excerpt
- William Lloyd Garrison's "The Anti-Suffragist"
- Mary E. Wilkins Freeman's "The Revolt of Mother"
- Selected satirical articles from *The Onion*
- Edward O. Wilson's *The Future of Life* excerpts

Module 6: Modern Edition

- Langston Hughes's "The Negro Speaks of Rivers"
- Langston Hughes's "Theme for English B"
- Countee Cullen's "From the Dark Tower"
- Countee Cullen's "Incident"
- Claude McKay's "America"
- Claude McKay's "The Yellow Peril and the Dockers"
- W.E.B. Du Bois's "The Criteria of Negro Art" excerpt
- John F. Kennedy's "Civil Rights Address"
- Langston Hughes's "Let America Be America Again"
- Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream"
- Marco Rubio's "Speech at Miami's Freedom Tower"
- Barack Obama's "Speech on the American Dream"
- John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath* excerpt
- Zora Neale Hurston's "How It Feels to Be Colored Me"
- Franklin D. Roosevelt's "Address at the Dedication of the National Gallery of Art"
- Palmer Hayden's "The Janitor Who Paints"
- Dorothea Lange's "Migrant Mother"
- Langston Hughes's "The Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain"

Module 7: Contemporary Edition

- Roy Peter Clark's "How to Fix the Memoir Genre"
- John F. Kennedy's "Inaugural Address"
- Martin Luther King Jr.'s "Letter from Birmingham Jail"
- Mark Twain's "Patriotism is a Religion"
- Second Amendment
- Thomas Paine's "Thoughts on Defensive War" excerpt
- Barack Obama's "Remarks by the President on Common-Sense Gun Safety Reform"
- Justice McReynolds's Opinion of the Court
- John Muir's "Our National Parks" excerpt
- Choice of memoir from the following list:
 - *A Work in Progress* by Connor Franta
 - *The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother* by James McBride
 - *The Glass Castle* by Jeanette Walls
 - *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass: An American Slave* by Frederick Douglass
 - *Reading Lolita in Tehran* by Azar Nafisi



- *The Reason I Jump: The Inner Voice of a Thirteen-Year-Old Boy with Autism* by Naoki Higashida

Module 8: Student Edition

- Choice of nonfiction text from the following list:
 - *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* by Annie Dillard
 - *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting by in America* by Barbara Ehrenreich
 - *Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, A Man Who Would Cure the World* by Tracy Kidder
 - *The Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair that Changed America* by Eric Larson
 - *Killing Kennedy: The End of Camelot* by Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard
 - *Up from Slavery: An Autobiography* by Booker T. Washington
 - *I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban* by Christina Lamb and Malala Yousafzai